

SARAH MARDINI AND SEÁN BINDER,  
GREECE

# FACING JAIL FOR SAVING LIVES

WRITE  
FOR  
RIGHTS

AMNESTY  
INTERNATIONAL



# SARAH MARDINI AND SEÁN BINDER

## GREECE

In Greece, you can go to jail for trying to save a life. It happened to Sarah Mardini, 24, and Seán Binder, 25, when they volunteered as rescue workers for an organization in Lesvos. Their job was to spot boats in distress at sea and to help refugees.

They are accused of spying, people smuggling and belonging to a criminal organization. If found guilty, Sarah and Seán could go to prison for 25 years.

They already spent more than 100 days in prison before being released on bail in December 2018.

Seán, now in Ireland, says the scariest thing about what happened to him “is not that it put me in jail, it’s that this can happen to anyone”. It happens when governments make criminals of people who try to help refugees instead of doing more to protect a refugee’s right to find a safe place to live. When people need to escape conflict, torture or other abuses in their countries, they often have no option but to make highly dangerous journeys to reach safety.

Sarah, now in Germany, knows all about such dangers. In 2015 she fled Syria’s war, crossing the Aegean in a dinghy which nearly sank. She and her sister towed the boat to the shores of Lesvos, saving the lives of everyone on board.

**Tell Greece to drop all charges against Sarah and Seán.**

## WRITE TO THE GREEK AUTHORITIES TODAY

Tell them to drop all charges against Sarah Mardini and Seán Binder.

**Michalis Chrisochoidis**  
Minister of Citizens’ Protection  
Twitter: @chrisochoidis  
Email: minister@yptp.gr  
Salutation: Dear Minister

## SHOW SARAH AND SEÁN YOU’RE WITH THEM

Send your messages of support to Sarah and Seán, and the refugees they have fought so hard to help.

**Sarah and Seán**  
c/o Amnesty International  
Europe Regional Office  
1 Easton Street  
London WC1X 0DW  
UK



**WRITE A LETTER  
CHANGE A LIFE**

December 2019  
Index: EUR 25/0753/2019 English  
Images: cover: © Fahrinisa Campana/PRI's  
The World (Main image)  
© Giorgos Moutafis/AI  
Back page: © Olga Stéfátou/AI